

BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND ASSESSORS OFFICE

Fiscal Year 2014

The members of the Board of Assessor's for Fiscal Year 2014 were, Jeffrey Morgan, John Kick and Carl Mailler.

FY 14 was an interim year for the Town of Amherst and values were approved by the Department of Revenue at the end of November 2013. In general values stayed the same. There were no significant value changes in FY 14.

The Board met on December 2, 2013 with the Select Board to discuss consideration of a split residential commercial rate and the possible adoption of the Residential Exemption. The Select Board must make a determination for each of these options each year. The Principal Assessor and the Board of Assessors provide information and recommendation regarding the annual determination. In FY 14 the Board Assessors recommended against the split rate because its adoption could further dampen the vitality of Amherst's business sector the Board also voted against the Residential Exemption.

FY 2014 TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

(A) Class	(B) Levy Percentage	(C) Levy by Class	(D) Valuation Class	(E) Tax Rate (C)-(D) X1000(A)
Residential	89.7689%	38,828,691.88	1,851,630,904	20.97
Open Space				
Commercial	7.2881%	3,152,398.99	150,328,496	20.97
Industrial	0.2209%	95,548.21	4,557,000	20.97
Personal Prop.	2.7221%	1,177,418.71	56,147,300	20.97
TOTAL	100.00%		2,062,663,700	*****

BOARD OF ASSESSORS Fiscal Year 2014

The Amherst Board of Assessors held 9 public meetings during FY 14. Board activities associated with these meetings are summarized in the following report. Details on the information in this report can be found in the minutes of the Board of Assessors meetings. The Board also had joint meetings with the Select board to discuss a potential residential exemption and the classification hearing.

REAL/PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

Commitments/Warrants

The Board signed summary FY 14 property tax commitments and water/sewer warrants for the following:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 62,948,152.86
CPA	\$ 663,381.31
Personal Property	\$ 1,747,279.49
Water Liens Interest	\$ 10,272.74
Water Liens	\$ 95,588.12
Sewer Liens	\$ 80,642.49
Sewer Liens Interest	\$ 8,659.66

Personal Exemptions and Deferrals

The Board signed a form that was submitted to the Department of Revenue for partial reimbursement of FY 14 personal exemptions. For FY 14 there were a total of 102 personal exemptions and deferrals totaling \$112,728.25, as follows:

	<u>#</u>	<u>Value</u>		<u>#</u>	<u>Value</u>
Clause 17D	4	\$ 1,685.76	Clause 37A	9	\$ 7,592.54
Clause 18	0	0.00	Clause 41C	26	41,663.40
Clause 22	54	50,535.12	Clause 41A	2	7,781.43
Clause 50	7	3,500.00			

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

Abatements

The following total amounts of motor vehicle excise tax abatements for July 2013 through June 2014 were signed by the Board:

2004	16,570.94	2011	39.58
2005	18,423.23	2012	1,058.01
2006	15,050.55	2013	40,643.82
2008	142.50	2014	184,017.80

Commitments/Warrants

Motor Vehicle excise tax commitments and warrants for the following yearly totals were signed by the Board:

2009	53.75
2010	51.25
2012	52.50
2013	146,279.19
2014	1,596,113.95

SPECIAL MEETINGS

The Select Board is responsible for allocation of the tax rate (Minimum Residential Factor): whether or not to have a Residential Exemption, and other distributions of the tax burden within classes as allowed by the law. The required public meeting to discuss these issues was held on December 2, 2013 in the Town Hall. Board of Assessors recommendations included not to have a split rate and not to exercise the Residential Exemption. The Select Board approved a single tax rate for all classes and no shifts of the tax burden within classes.

TAX RATE/ETC.

Board members signed the Tax Rate Recapitulation form for FY 14 on December 2, 2013, showing a tax rate of \$20.97. The rate was reviewed and approved by the Department of Revenue (DOR) on December 9, 2013.

Prepared from the Board meeting minutes.

For: Carl Mailler
Jeffrey Morgan
John Kick

Amherst Board of Assessors